

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00

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O 240932Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5706

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CINCEUR IMMEDIATE

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IMMEDIATE

USDOCLAND SOUTHEAST IMMEDIATE

USNMR SHAPE IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PLOS TU GR US

SUBJECT: SAILING OF SISMIK I; GREEK PUBLIC REACTION

REF: A. ANKARA 5636(DTG 221500Z JUL 76; B. ATHENS 7477
(DTG 231427Z JUL 76)

1. THE SAILING OF THE TURK SEISMOGRAPHIC VESSEL SISMIK I
YESTERDAY CAPTURED THE FULL ATTENTION OF THE GREEK MEDIA
TODAY (JULY 24). HOWEVER, WHILE BANNER HEADLINES ANNOUNCED
THE EVENT, THE CALL FOR MODERATION AND PRUDENCE IN
DEALING WITH THE ISSUE HAS BEEN THE GENERAL TONE OF MOST REPORTING.
MANY STORIES PLAY UP RECENT DEMIREL-ECEVIT EXCHANGES
ON THE AEGEAN ISSUE, AND ATTRIBUTE THE DEPARTURE OF THE
SISMIK I TO TURKISH DOMESTIC POLITICS.

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2. THE GOG, CELEBRATING THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE

RETURN TO DEMOCRACY TO GREECE, HAS REFRAINED FROM ISSUING
ANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON THE SISMIK I, PRIME MINISTER
CARAMANLIS CALLED IN OPPOSITION LEADERS GEORGE MAVROS, AND FOR
THE FIRST TIME, ANDREAS PAPANDREOU FOR BRIEFINGS
IN A SHOW OF NATIONAL SOLIDARITY. OBVIOUSLY THE GOG
IS FOLLOWING THE VESSEL'S PROGRESS CLOSELY AND IS INTERNALLY
ALERT, BUT SO FAR HAS DEMONSTRATED AN OWTWARD
APPEARANCE OF CONFIDENCE AND CALM. KUBISCH

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